

# The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 7923

版三十二百九十七第

日初月四年未

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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 11th, 1883.

五年

一月十一日香港

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

11 MAY 1883

## SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

May 9, VOEWERTHS, German steamer, (li), Bois, Hoitow 8th May, General, WIELER & Co.

May 10, JONES JUN, British steamer, 557, Theband, Manila 8th May, General, RUSSELL & Co.

May 10, ANNIE T. MARSHALL, British bark, 1,100, McLaughlin, New York 9th November, Oil—RUSSELL & Co.

May 10, LOREN, British str., 1,634, Wm. Hunter, Singapore 4th May, General, BUN BIN.

May 10, GLENWOOD, British steamer, 229, D. Scott, Pakhoi 6th May, and Hoitow 8th, General—ADAMSON, BELL & Co.

May 10, BORWELL CASTLE, British str., 1,653, W. S. THOMSON, Saigon 6th May, Eros—ADAMSON, BELL & Co.

May 10, SLEDRAKE, British str., M. L. Bridger, Yokohama 23rd April.

May 10, TAMUR, British str., 910, Schultz, Canton 10th May, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

May 10, GLENROY, British steamer, 1,411, W. J. Glase, Saigon 6th May, Rice—JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

## CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, MAY 10th.

ANNIE T. MARSHALL, British bk, for Yokohama.

EDWARD, British str., for Saigon.

EDINBURGH, British str., for Bangkok.

GLENWOOD, British str., for Hoitow.

CHINCHIN, British str., for Shanghai.

FOOTCH, Chinese str., for Hoitow.

LORAS, British str., for Swatow.

CALIFORNIA, British str., for Foochow.

## DEPARTURES.

May 10, KWANGTUNG, British str., for East Coast.

May 10, BELLONA, German str., for Saigon.

May 10, MARIE, German str., for Whampoa.

May 10, BELKONIC, German bark, for Whampoa.

May 10, VINDORALA, British steamer, for Nagasaki.

May 10, ORINIANA, British steamer, for Shanghai.

May 10, BRISTOL, British steamer, for Europe, &c.

## PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

For Lorna, str., from Singapore—438 Chinese.

For Vorwerts, str., from Hoitow—Messrs. Schubert, Rev. Joseph Vincent Costa, and 50 Chinese.

For Jungs Juan, str., from Manila—2 European, and 6 Chinese.

For Greyhound, str., from Pakhoi, &c.—35 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

For Kuanping, str., for Swatow—Captain Kortberg, Messrs. Parker, Chas. Redfern, and J. R. H. Ashton, for Aden—Messrs. W. L. Hunter, H. G. Hunt, H. J. Charnier, H. G. Phillips, F. H. England, H. S. Rogers, and Russell Schmidt.

For Brindisi, str., from Hongkong—for Siam—Mr. G. J. Goss, for Brindisi—Mr. Godfrey Bird, Rev. C. T. H. Ashton.

For Venice—Mr. J. D. Mander, for Pernar.

Messrs. J. & J. A. Smith, for Ed. Smith.

For Madras—Mr. J. G. Godwin, A. L. Dusen, and Sallman, from Shanghai—for Singapore—1 Chinese.

For Bombay—Mr. E. Moses.

For Venetia—Messrs. W. Pardon, Devereux, E. E. E. Biddle, T. J. Brown, M. Corder, and Todhunter, for London—Mrs. Lawing and 4 children, Mr. R. H. Elias, and Mr. Raphael's 3 children, and 2 aunts.

## REPORTS.

The British steamer Lora reports left Singapore on the 7th instant, and had fine weather throughout; light N.E. and N.W. winds, strong Easterly current outside.

The British steamer Jungs Juan reports left Manila on the 7th inst., and experienced light variable风 first part, and then light S.W. wind to port, with fine weather.

## AMOY SHIPPING.

### ARRIVALS.

1. Friedrich, Ger. str., from Nanchang.

2. Hengtong, Chinese str., from Tsinan.

3. Diancun, British str., from Hongkong.

4. Peihui, British str., from Swatow.

5. Hallong, British str., from Tamsui.

6. Osestra, British str., from Hongkong.

7. Rosang, British str., from Nanchang.

8. John Cad. German str., from Tsinan.

9. Glosay, British str., from Amoy.

10. San Shih, bark, from Nanchang.

11. Satana, British bark, from Nanchang.

12. Chin Wei, Chinese g.b., from Fuchow.

13. Dongla, British str., from Hongkong.

14. DEPARTURES.

1. Ching, German str., for Tamsui.

2. Kaelun, British str., for Shanghai.

3. Diancun, British str., for Swatow.

4. Kuanping, British str., for Hoitow.

5. Albatross, British str., for Whampoa.

6. Hengtong, British str., for Fuchow.

7. Palaces, British str., for Shanghai.

8. Hallong, British str., for Tamsui.

9. John Cad. German str., for Kuanping.

10. Vessel Advertised in Europe from Ports in China, Japan, and Manilla.

11. Steamer (s.) Shanghai Mar. 24.

12. Glosay (s.) Yocham Mar. 26.

13. Glosay (s.) Shanghai Mar. 27.

14. Leander Hongkong Mar. 27.

15. Vessel Advertised in Europe from Ports in China, Japan, and Manilla.

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## ECONOMY IN GAS.

SUGG'S FLAT FLAME BURNERS  
which are economy in gas of  
30 Per Cent.

And can be readily attached to ordinary Gas-  
Hobs and Gas-cooks.

SUGG'S NEWEST BURNERS with  
Artistic shades for Drawing Room and Dining  
Room. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,  
Agents for Hongkong.

ARTISTIC PORCELAIN M E N U  
STANDS.

HAND-ETCHED MENU and NAME  
CARDS. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

DEVON'S NONPARAEL KEROSINE,  
150 degrees fire test, a perfectly safe Oil.  
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.  
Hongkong, 5th May, 1883. [632]

## NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.,  
FAMILY AND DISPENSING  
CHEMISTS.

By Appointment to His Excellency the Go-  
VERNOR and His Royal Highness the  
DUKE OF EDINBURGH,  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,  
PESUMERS.

PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,  
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYERS,  
And  
AERATED WATER MAKERS.

SHIPS MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,  
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of  
Orders, it is particularly requested that all  
business communications be addressed to the  
Firm, A. S. WATSON and Co. or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [23]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be  
addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The  
Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name  
and address with communications addressed to the  
Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good  
faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one  
side of paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not  
entered for a fixed period will be discontinued until  
remained.

Order for extra copies of the Daily Press should  
be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After that hour the supply is limited.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MAY 11TH, 1883.

The use of the telegraph as a political agent  
has been demonstrated in China. The  
other day a popular movement, which threat-  
ened to develop into a rising, occurred in  
a town called Chin Kang Poo, situated on the  
Grand Canal, near the Hoang-ho or Yellow  
River. It seems that three members of the  
"White Lily Sect," a secret society which  
has become very powerful in the province of  
Kiangsu, were arrested and sent to the Vice-  
roy, Tso Tung-tau, to be dealt with at  
Nanking. On hearing of the arrest, the  
population of Chin Kang Poo declared a dis-  
turbance, clamouring for the safe return of  
the prisoners. So formidable became their  
threats and so menacing their attitude that  
the telegraph, which runs through the town,  
was set in motion by the Authorities to com-  
municate with the Viceroy, who promptly de-  
patched several hundred troops to overawe the  
people. These facts, related by a Chinakang  
correspondent of the *Courier*, show how the  
telegraph may be the first importance in  
quelling incipient insurrections. Many of  
the numerous risings which have caused  
such a frightful amount of suffering and  
bloodshed in the Central Kingdom, have  
originated in a disturbance far less serious  
than that which was so quickly nipped in  
the bud in Chin Kang Poo. The Taiping  
Rebellion was, in its inception, very feeble  
and far from alarming, being at first a paltry  
movement in the remote provinces of Kiangsu  
headed by two or three religious enthusiasts.  
Had not the Imperial Authorities been  
singularly stupid, and the means of com-  
munication marvelously defective, the insur-  
rection could never have attained the  
colossal proportions it ultimately assumed,  
and the frightful civil war which followed,  
resulting in loss of life and property simply  
incalculable, would not have had to be chro-  
nicated. The Chinese Government have  
certainly learned some lessons from that  
horrible outbreak, and would be better  
prepared against any similar attempt to  
subvert the dynasty. They have crushed  
several revolts since then, among the  
most notable of which was that of Li  
Yung-chou, an officer in the Imperial Army,  
who aspired to the throne of Annam, and  
raised a large following in Kwangsi. But the  
imperialists, having gunboats at com-  
mand, were able to cut off his sources of  
supply from the coast, and gradually  
driving him to the mountains, ultimately  
accomplished his ruin by treachery—a  
species of strategy which Chinese military  
commanders strongly appreciate. The  
means at the disposal of the Peking  
Government have greatly increased since  
the Taiping Rebellion. The establish-  
ment of the Imperial Maritime Customs has  
been a source of great strength to the Central  
Government, both materially and politi-  
cally. They not only derive a large and  
certain revenue thereby, but they have  
practically, by means of the Customs, put them-  
selves in communication with the entire  
Empire, thereby securing a  
check upon the formerly irresponsible  
agents who administer the affairs of the  
different provinces. The establishment of  
telegraphic communication through the  
length of China will serve still further to  
centralise political power in the empire and to  
dissolve the autocratic authority of the provincial  
mandarins. It will also serve to place no-  
other weapon in the hands of the Government  
wherever to suppress rebellion. The  
ability of the Peking Government will be  
rendered still more assured by the introduc-  
tion of railways. This fact has been  
recognised by the Chinese Ministers, and  
it is for this reason alone that they have,  
after years of prejudice and hostility, at last  
brought themselves to sanction this portent-

tous innovation. The steamer, so far from  
proving revolutionary, has tended to confirm  
the authority of the Emperor, and they are  
now apparently willing to believe that the  
railway, as affording rapid and easy means  
of transport to troops, will prove a new but-  
tress to Imperial authority. It is out of no  
weak curiosity to witness a novel invention  
that the Chinese mandarins have at length  
tardily recognised the imperfect nature  
of the existing means of communication in  
the Celestial Empire. This conviction, more-  
over, was only brought home to them by the  
panic which prevailed during the Russo-Chi-  
nese embroilie.

H. M. gunboat *Sheldrake*, Lieut.-Commander  
Bridge, arrived here yesterday morning from  
Yokohama, which port she left on the 21st  
April.

The British steamer *Mora*, and the American  
ship *Mercury*, were undocked at Kowloon, and the  
British steamer *Nelson* and the Italian  
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announced. It had received a letter without a signature, wherein the writer threatened to blow up the government offices. The letter was referred to the police, and later a search was made, as well as an investigation of the Irish agents, who were suspected in arresting a man who had in his possession a quantity of stuff supposed to be dynamite. The arrest caused a decided sensation. Detectives had followed the prisoner from Manchester, as he appeared to be a suspicious character. He was arrested while in the vicinity of Fleet street. He is now at the Bow street station, to await the report of the army officials.

News has come to-day that the dynamiters have been seized in London already.

VENICE, 6th April.

Seven hundred and fifty Hungarian emigrants from Bokowina have arrived from the domains of that State at Pancehout. Two thousand more men are on route, and the whole Hungarian colony in Bokowina numbering 20,000 souls, are determined to leave the place, owing to the insufficiency of the crops to feed the population.

ROTTERDAM, 6th April.

The explosion of the powder depot occurred at Morcone, a small village just out of Passe Corese. Two hundred weight of powder was stored, to be used in blasting preliminary to the construction of an aqueduct; in the cellar of a tenement in which sixty workmen had their quarters. One of these was having occasion to go up the stairs, when the powder exploded, burning out, there is down. A terrible explosion followed. The whole house was blown into the air and the concussion broke all the windows in the neighbourhood. Only a few persons in the house at the time escaped with their lives and all were badly injured.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

LONDON, 3rd April.

Victor Gally, notorious in connection with the Brava case, is dead. Charles De Lancy Turner, Brava's barrister, died suddenly and mysteriously at Batham, Surrey, in April, 1876. Shields was first suspected, but the verdict of the jury was that he was guilty, by the administration of tartar emetic, but there was not sufficient evidence to sustain the charge.

During the recent visit of the Duke of Connaught to Berlin, he consulted the famous surgeon Langenbeck in regard to the injury to his arm. The physician assured him that the injury was in no respect dangerous, and that his recovery would be complete.

DUBLIN, 6th April.

Archbishop Crooke orders a collection throughout the archdiocese of Cashel and Emly for the Farnell testimonial.

PARIS, 6th April.

A case is in progress in the Probate Court, against Biling, late Consul to Tunis, for an alleged attempt to palm off as the son of his late wife by his first husband, Admiral Caviglio. The case has led to a sensational disclosure. The counsel for the prosecution hinted that the foundling was a natural son of Napoleon the Third.

#### COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THURSDAY, 10th May.

EXPORT CARGO.

Per steamer *Brindisi* for London—34,992 pcks, tea, 51 bales raw silk, 98 bales waste silk, 104 pcks, pongee, 45 boxes silk goods, and 13,810 pcks, sundries. For Continent—70 bales raw silk, 105 bales waste silk, 10 boxes silk goods and 28 pcks, sundries. For America—15 bales raw silk.

#### EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, on demand, 37/2; Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 37/2; Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight, 37/2; Credits, at 4 months' sight, 37/2; Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight, 37/2; ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand, 4/5; Credits, at 4 months' sight, 4/5; ON BORDEAUX.—Bank, 3 days' sight, 2/2; ON CANTON.—Bank, 3 days' sight, 2/2; ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, sight, 7/2; Private, 30 days' sight, 7/2.

#### SHARES.

A fairly large business has been transacted in Banks and Interests to date. Sales of the former have been made at 184 and 185 per cent. premium for cash, 187 per cent. for the end of the month, 190 per cent. for the end of July, and 185 per cent. for the end of August; and of the latter at 90 per cent. share for cash, and 95 for the end of June, principally on the last-mentioned date. Hong Kong—Bank, 185 per cent. for cash, and 182 for the end of the month. China Firsts are offered at 3345 per share. Hong Kong—and Shanghai Bank Shares—150 per cent. premium. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Shares—New Issue—165 per cent. premium. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—325 per share. China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$2,400 per share. North China Insurance—\$1,150 per share. Xiamen Insurance Association—\$1,000 per share. Chinese Insurance Company, Limited—\$205 per share. On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—\$145 per share. Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$140 per share. Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$124 per share. China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$345 per share. Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—54 per cent. premium. Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—\$40 premium. Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—5 per cent. premium. China Manilla Steamship Company, Limited—\$325 per cent. premium. Hong Kong Gas Company's Shares—\$82 per share. Hong Kong Hotel Company's Shares—\$130 per share. China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$180 per share. China Sugar Refining Company (Doboutures)—1 per cent. premium. London Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$80 per share. Hong Kong Ice Company's Shares—\$170 per share. Hong Kong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$32 per share. Chinese Imperial Loan of 1874—Nominal. Chinese Imperial Loan of 1877—Nominal. Chinese Imperial Loan of 1878—2 per cent. premium. Chinese Imperial Loan of 1881—3 per cent. premium.

#### HONGKONG TIDE-TABLE.

From Hong Kong to 17th May, 1883.

Hour	WATER		LOW WATER	
	Hong Kong Mean Tides	Height	Hong Kong Mean Tides	Height
11	11	11	11	11
12	11	11	11	11
13	11	11	11	11
14	11	11	11	11
15	11	11	11	11
16	11	11	11	11
17	11	11	11	11

The height of mean sea-level has been determined at 1100 feet above zero of the Elevation of the Victoria Naval Yard, and is called the Ordinary Spring-tide; to which datum the heights of the tides are referred. The height of the tide is then given in feet above the mean sea-level.

The heights of the Tides, marked with signs (+) are above Low Water Ordinary Spring-tide, and those marked with signs (-) are below Low Water Ordinary Spring-tide, and should be subtracted from the constants given above.

#### HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

From Messrs. FALCONER & CO's Weather-Station:

Month	Temp.
January	74.4
February	75.9
March	76.0
April	76.0
May	76.1
June	76.2
July	76.3
August	76.4
September	76.5
October	76.6
November	76.7
December	76.8

#### CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Month	HOURLY TEMP.	AVG. TEMP.	MEAN TEMP.	MEAN HUM.
Jan.	72.5	72.5	72.5	72.5
Feb.	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0
Mar.	73.5	73.5	73.5	73.5
Apr.	74.0	74.0	74.0	74.0
May	74.5	74.5	74.5	74.5
June	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
July	75.5	75.5	75.5	75.5
Aug.	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0
Sept.	76.5	76.5	76.5	76.5
Oct.	77.0	77.0	77.0	77.0
Nov.	77.5	77.5	77.5	77.5
Dec.	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0

#### VESSELS ADVERTISED AS LOADING.

DESTINATION	VESSEL'S NAME	CAPTAIN	AT	FOR FREIGHT APPLY TO	TO BE DESPATCHED
LONDON, via SUZÉ CANAL	Nestor (str.)	Nish.		Bitterfield & Swire	On or about 17th Inst.
MARSEILLE, via SUZÉ, &c.	Djemnah (str.)	D. Boisseuil & Baron		On or about 21st Inst.	
MARSEILLE, via SAIGON, &c.	Lubna (str.)	C. J. Haseline		Quick despatch.	
NEW YORK	Condor (str.)	G. H. Miller		Quick despatch.	
SAN FRANCISCO	Debaser (str.)	Eaton		Quick despatch.	
SAN FRANCISCO, via YAHAM	Wandering Jew	Talpay		Quick despatch.	
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE	Arabia (str.)	O. & S. S. Co.		On 21st inst., at 3 P.M.	
VICTORIA, B. C. &c.	Gordon Castle (str.)	Gibb, Livingston & Co.		On 16th inst., at 4 P.M.	
BOMBAY, via STRAITS	Mercury (str.)	P. & O. S. N. Co.		Quick despatch.	
CALCUTTA, via STRAITS	Panno (str.)	P. & O. S. N. Co.		On 15th inst., at 3 P.M.	
CANTON, via STRAITS	Crystal (str.)	P. & O. S. N. Co.		On 15th inst., at 3 P.M.	
YOKOHAMA, via NAGASAKI	Portia (str.)	P. & O. S. N. Co.		To-morrow, at Noon.	
YOKOHAMA AND HIODO	Kasuga (str.)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.		To-morrow, at 4 P.M.	
NAGASAKI	Beastry (str.)	Gibb, Livingston & Co.		To-morrow, at 4 P.M.	
NAGASAKI, KOBE, &c.	Le Boutillier	Hubone		To-day, at 4 P.M.	
SHANGHAI	Sundina-Maru (str.)	P. & O. S. S. Co.		Quick despatch.	
SHANGHAI	Fooksang (str.)	Jardine, Matheson & Co.		On 16th inst., at 4 P.M.	
MANLEY, via AMOY	D. Cesso (str.)	D. Cesso		To-morrow, at 4 P.M.	
FOUCHOW, via AMOY	Theobald (str.)	David J. S. Scott		To-morrow, at 4 P.M.	
AMOY AND TAMSUL, &c.	Glenagles (str.)	P. & O. S. N. Co.		To-morrow, at 4 P.M.	
SWATOW, AMOY, & PHOW	Abbott (str.)	Ashton		On 14th inst., at 4 P.M.	
Douglas (str.)	Douglas Lapraik & Co.				

#### INSURANCES.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

CAPITAL OF THE COMPANY, \$10,000,000 Sterling, of which \$1,000,000 Sterling is paid up.

RESERVE FUND UPWARDS OF \$10,000 Sterling.

ANNUAL INCOME \$200,000 Sterling.

The Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at HONGKONG, CANTON, FOOCHOW, SHANGHAI, and HANKOW, and are prepared to grant Insurances at Current Rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1883.

H. G. H. FIRE OFFICE.

The Office is in progress at the Probate Court, against Biling, late Consul to Tunis, for an alleged attempt to palm off as the son of his late wife by his first husband, Admiral Caviglio. The case has led to a sensational disclosure. The counsel for the prosecution hinted that the foundling was a natural son of Napoleon the Third.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST.

AD. 1720.

The Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Corporation, are prepared to grant Insurances at Current Rates.

ON FIRST-CLASS European.

Insurance rates, payable either here or in London, or at the principal Ports of India and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Policy issued for long or short periods at current rates.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Policy issued for sums not exceeding \$25,000.

REDUCED RATES.

For First-class Chinese.

Tenants, at 2 1/2% Net per Annum.

On Second-class Chinese.

Tenants, at 2 1/2% Net per Annum.

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On Second-class Chinese.

## EXTRACTS.

THE LITTLE BLACK SHEEP.  
BY ONE OF 'EM.

We were a happy household flock,  
On the pleasant Penland hills;  
And still when I think upon those days  
My heart to the memory thrills.  
O for the front in the mountain hock!  
The hock in the heather holl,  
And the ewe's call in the Summer woods,  
And the sheep, lonely falls!

III.

I was earliest up, and last out;  
And always in some disgrace;  
'Twas a jacket torn, a sailor's task,  
Ears red, or a dirty face.  
Off to the woods at days of day,  
And last on the hills at night,  
The little black sheep of the household fold,  
And always in some bad plight.

IT.

I had stripes to take on every hand;  
I had lessons in every book,  
But nothing troubled me half so much.  
As my mother's sorrowful look.

And oft when the house was dark and still,  
Angry and wailful in bed,  
I have felt her kiss on my hot, dry lips,  
And her hand upon my head.

IV.

And heard her say: "Is Jack awake?"  
Then what could I do but sigh,  
Ring little brown bells about her neck,  
And whisper: "I'll try! I'll try!"

I'll try to learn, I'll try to be good,  
Oh, mother, for your sake do save!"

And when I fall'd I was sure to hear  
In the night: "Is Jack awake?"

V.

Honour and gold to-day are mine;  
Yet many my memory keep,  
And wonder and doubt how I have won,  
I, such a little black sheep.

I could not stay from my mother's arms,  
Was true for her love's sweet sake,  
And if I fal'd or fail'd, I knew  
She would ask—"Is Jack awake?"

VI.

Now I have boys of my own to guide,  
And one is idle and wild;  
Do you think I forgot the Penland hills  
The days when I was a child?

Ah, no! Ah, no! my little black sheep  
Methinks, close to my heart I feel

She softly says—"I want to be good...

To-morrow, I'll try! I'll try!"

THE BALLOON TEA.  
CHAPTER I.

The Colonel said:  
We rode for several hours straight from the shore towards the heart of the island. The sun was low in the western sky when we left the ship. Neither on the water nor on the land did we feel a breath of air stirring. The glare was upon everything. Over the low range of hills miles away in the interior hung a few copper-coloured clouds. "Wind," said Brie, "Kilosa shook his head.

Vegetation of all kinds showed the effects of the long continued drought. The eye wandered without relief from the sickly russets of the undergrowth, so dry in places that leaves and stems crackled under the horses' feet, to the yellowish brown of the thirsty trees that skirted the bridle path. No growing thing was green except the bell-cactus, fit to flourish in the crater of a living volcano.

Kilosa leaned over in the saddle and tore from one of these plants its top, as big as a Chinese parrot, and floated with juice. He crushed the bell in his fist, and, turning, hung into our hot faces a few grateful drops of water.

Then the guide began to talk rapidly in his language of vowels and liquids. Brie translated for my benefit.

The god Lalala loved a woman of the island. He came in the form of fire. She accustomed to the ordinary temperature of the climate, only shivered before his approaches. Then he woosed her as a shower of rain, and won her heart. Lalala was a divinity much more powerful than Lalala, but malicious to the last degree. He also courted this woman, who was very beautiful. Lalala's importunities were in vain. In spite, he changed her to a cactus and rooted her to the ground under the burning sun. The good Lalala was powerless to avert this vengeance; but he took up his abode with the cactus woman, still in the form of a man shower, and never left her, even in the driest seasons. Thus it happens that the bell-cactus is an unfailing reservoir of pure, cool water.

Long after dark we reached the channel of a vanished stream, and Kilosa led us for several miles along its dry bed. We were exceedingly tired when the guide bade us dismount. He tethered the panting horses and then dashed into the dense thicket on the bank. A hundred yards of scrabbling, we came to a poor thatched hut. The savage raised both hands above his head and uttered a musical falsetto, not unlike the yodel peculiar to the Valais. The call brought out the occupant of the hut, upon whom Brie flashed the light of his lantern. It was an old woman, hideous beyond the imagination of a dyspeptic's dream.

"Omsanans gelan!" exclaimed Kilosa.

"Hail, holy woman," translated Brie. Between Kilosa and the holy bag there ensued a long colloquy, respectful on his part, sententious and impudent on hers. Brie listened with eager attention. Several times he clutched my arm, as if unable to repress his anxiety. The woman seemed to be persuaded by Kilosa's arguments, or won by his entreaties! At last she pointed toward the southeast, slowly pronouncing a few words that apparently satisfied my companion.

The direction indicated by the holy woman was still toward the hills, but twenty or thirty degrees to the left of the general course which we had pursued since leaving the shore.

"Push on! push on!" cried Brie. "We can afford to lose no time."

we rode all night. At sunrise there was a pause of half an hour for the scanty breakfast supplied by our hashbacks. Then we were again in the saddle, making our way through a thicket that grew more and more difficult, and under a sun that grew hotter.

"Perhaps," I remarked finally to my taciturn friend, "you have no objection to telling me now why two civilized beings and one amiable savage should be plumping through this infernal jungle; as if they were on an errand of life or death?"

"Yes," said he, "it's best you should know."

Brie produced from an inner breast pocket a letter which had been read and reread until it was worn in the emaces. "This," he went on, "is from 'Professor Quakversuch of the University of Upsala.' It reached me at Valparaiso."

Glimmering cautiously around, as he feared that every tree in that tropical wilderness was not a buzzsaw, or that the hood-like spathes of the giant caladiums overhead were ears waiting to drink in some mighty secret of science. Brie read in a low voice from the letter of the great Swedish botanist.

"You will have in these islands," wrote the Professor, "a rare opportunity to have

gained certain extraordinary accounts given me years ago by the Jesuit missionary Buteaux concerning the Migratory Tree, the curious ephemeris of Jansenius and other speculative physiologists.

"The explorer Spörri claims to have held it; but there is reason, as you know, for accepting all of Spörri's statements with caution."

"That is not the case with the assertions of my late valued correspondent, the Jesuit missionary. Father Buteaux was a learned botanist, an accurate observer, and a most pious and conscientious man. He never saw the Migratory Tree; but during the long period of his labours in that part of the world he accumulated, from widely different sources, a mass of testimony as to its existence and habits."

"It is quite conceivable, my dear Brie, that somewhere in the range of Nature there is a vegetable organization as far above the cabbage, let us say, in complexity and potentiality, as the ape is above the polyp! Nature is continuous. In all her schemes we find no chasms, no gaps. There may be missing links in our books and classifications and cabinets, but there are none in the organic world. Is not all of Nature struggling upwards to arrive at the point of self-consciousness and evolution? In the increasing process of evolution, differentiation, improvement in special function, why may not a plant arrive at this point and feel, will, act—in short, possess and exercise the characteristics of the true animal?"

Brie's voice trembled with enthusiasm as he read this passage.

"I have no doubt," continued Professor Quakversuch, "that if it should be your great good fortune to encounter a specimen of the Migratory Tree described by Buteaux, you will find that it possesses a well-defined system of real nerves and ganglia, constituting, in fact, the seat of vegetative intelligence. I conjure you to be very thorough in your dissections."

"According to the indications furnished me by the Jesuit, this extraordinary tree should belong to the order of *Cactaceae*. It should be developed only in conditions of extreme heat and dryness. Its roots should be hardly more than rudimentary, affording a precarious attachment to the earth. This attachment it should be able to sever at will, soaring up into the air and away to another place selected by chance, as a bird shifts its habitation. I infer that these migrations are accomplished by means of the property of secreting hydrogen gas, with which it inflates at pleasure a bladder-like organ of highly elastic tissue, thus lifting itself out of the ground and off to a new abode."

Brie added that the Migratory Tree was invariably worshipped by the natives as a supernatural being, and that the mystery thrown by them around its cult was the greatest obstacle in the path of the investigator.

"There!" exclaimed Brie, folding up Professor Quakversuch's letter. "Is not a quest worth the risk or sacrifice of life itself? To add to the recorded facts of vegetable morphology the proved existence of a tree that wanders, a tree that wills, a tree, perhaps, that thinks—is this glory to be won at any cost?" The lamented Decandolle of Geneva!"

"Confound the lamented Decandolle of Geneva!" shouted I, for it was excessively hot, and I felt that we had come on a fool's errand.

(To be continued.)

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM'S DIARY.

The German Emperor's Diary must certainly be one of the greatest historical treasures of the age. For nearly fifty years the Emperor William has carefully noted down with his own hand the chief events of each day, such as interviews, conversations, decisions, political intelligence, and domestic occurrences. Every morning a fresh sheet of paper is laid upon the Emperor's desk, headed with the date and a sacred text, and the diary is to pass into the Crown Prince's hands. The diary is illustrated by loose sheets bearing water-colour pictures of the chief occurrences of the Emperor's life, executed by renowned German artists; these sketches are drawn from rough outlines finished from memory by the Emperor, who also corrects the artist's drawings previous to their completion.—*Household Words*.

A MOUSE'S NEST MADE OF BANK NOTES.

A workman employed at a house building in the Avenue des Versailles, Paris, was disagreeably surprised the other day to find that a sum of 2,000, in bank notes had disappeared from a cellar for safety had disappeared. The pocket-book which had contained the notes was there, lying open, but there were no signs of the notes. On searching well, however, some small fragments of paper were seen lying about, and the master-builder thought that mice might be the thieves. Following the direction of the fragments he had the flooring taken up of a room above used as an office, and in which a fire had been lighted, and there near the stove was found a mouse's nest lined with the precious paper, nibbled into small pieces. These were collected and taken to the Bank of France, where the notes will be reconstituted if possible; and if the numbers can be ascertained, other notes will be given by the Bank in exchange for those lost.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MERV.

So much has been written during the last four years by Russian officers about the unimportance of Merv, that it is rather surprising to hear an exactly contrary opinion from the same quarter.

In a lecture before the Caucasian section of Russian Geographical Society, Lieutenant Alkhanoff, describing the Turkmen oasis, expressed his belief that future Merv, owing to its position, will become the chief market in Central Asia for Russian and European wares.

Lieutenant Alkhanoff has some right to be bold on the subject, seeing that he and Lieutenant Sokoloff were the first Russian officers to visit Merv. They accompanied the merchant Koushins first caravan to that place in February last. It should be noticed that the reason assigned for Merv's importance is "its position," and its position cannot be lost. The truth is that there is much in the argument that the towns and fortresses of Asia, may under a provident Government again all their former importance in China, it cannot but be invaluable, especially to the British.

It comprises upwards of two thousand large square paras.

A large REDUCTION IN PEICE is made to Purchasers of SIX or more Copies.

LONDON: T. BUNNEN & CO., PATERNOSTER ROW, HONGKONG: OFFICE, WYNDHAM ST.

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT, the COMMERCIAL JOURNAL FOR CHINA, JAPAN, &c. &c.

Published at the Office of the *Hongkong Daily Press* on the Morning of the Departure of the English Mail.

UNEXPLORED AUSTRALIA.

Unexplored Australia still contains prizes for enterprising travellers. The great central desert theory and many other myths have long been exploded, but an immense area of country remains practically unexplored. In two colonies alone—South Australia and Western Australia—there are upwards of 800,000 square miles of which little or nothing is known; and in the northern peninsula of Queensland another 10,000 square miles remain unexplored.

Mr. Christie Palmerston, the Government surveyor, has just opened up the tableland between Herborton and the Queensland coast. He reports that this highly-favoured region possesses a flora of incredible luxuriance, broad sheets of water falling over high basaltic precipices, and the richest soil.

"Perhaps," I remarked finally to my taciturn friend, "you have no objection to telling me now why two civilized beings and one amiable savage should be plumping through this infernal jungle; as if they were on an errand of life or death?"

"Yes," said he, "it's best you should know."

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"You will have in these islands," wrote the Professor, "a rare opportunity to have

## FOR SALE.

"LEONHARDI QUELLE."

NATURAL GERMAN SALTZER WATER.

Bottled at the Saltz-Spring near Gross Karbon, in Cases of 30 Dozen Flats, 35.50 per Case, PUSTAU & CO.—Sale Agents, Hongkong, 31st January, 1883. (375)

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CELEBRATED CHAISETS.

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SCOTCH WHISKEY.

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Hongkong, 15th February, 1883. (334)

## FOR SALE.

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CHAMPAGNE

Properties to Her Majesty the Queen and to

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales by Special Appointment under a Warrant dated 7th

March, 1881.

1 Dozen Quarts.....\$22.50.

2 Dozen Fists.....\$22.50.

Apply to ARNOLD, KARBERG & CO.

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CANVAS.

ARNOULD, KARBERG & CO.

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